



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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Linda McCulloch
Superintendent

THINK FOOD

School Nutrition Programs

March 2008

2008-09 COMMODITY ORDER

The commodity order form is available online. If you have not placed your order be sure and do so soon. The closing date for orders is February 15, 2008.

*Important
DATE!*

If you have questions about the new online ordering call Food Distribution at (406) 444-4415.

ABC COMMITTEE SPRING MEETINGS PLANNED

The spring Advisory Bid & Commodity committee (ABC) meetings will be held March 4 in Miles City, March 6 in Great Falls and March 7 in Missoula.



Please fax ABC agenda items to Brenda Peppers at the Office of Public Instruction, School Nutrition Programs, (406) 444-2955 by February 25, 2008.

The committee is the voice of Montana school foodservice in decisions regarding items offered in the Food Distribution and the Office of Public Instruction Cooperative Purchasing Programs.

We need your input to keep these programs successful.

The committee is in need of new members. It is an excellent way for new managers as well as seasoned managers to learn about both the commodity and the purchasing programs. Learn not only how they work but how they can benefit your lunch program.



Information regarding the committee and how to become a member can be found on both the Food Distribution and the OPI Cooperative Purchasing Program Web sites. Please consider joining the committee today.

NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK

National School Breakfast week is March 3-7. The theme is School Breakfast "FUEL YOUR IMAGINATION." Visit the



<http://www.schoolbreakfast.org/> Web site for information and ideas about how to celebrate breakfast week at your school.

"It is the mission of the Office of Public Instruction to improve teaching and learning through communication, collaboration, advocacy, and accountability to those we serve."

DICED CHICKEN CANCELLED

The USDA has been unable to purchase all the diced chicken necessary to fill orders for the 2007-08 school year. Our truckload has been moved to the March 31 delivery period. It will not be here in time for Shipment #10.

All the diced chicken orders have been deleted. The truckload will be used to fill 2008-09 orders and will be shipped in September.

PEER EDUCATION MINI-GRANTS

There is still time to apply for a Montana Team Nutrition Program sponsored Healthy School Challenge Peer Education Mini-Grant.



The 20 \$300 mini-grants will be distributed to support school staff in learning from their peers by visiting and observing operations at another school district in Montana.

Applications must be received by **March 31, 2008**. The application and introductory letter are posted at: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/index.html>. If you have questions or need further clarification, contact Katie Bark by telephone at (406) 994-5641 or by e-mail at kbark@mt.gov.

THE OPI COOPERATIVE PURCHASE PROGRAM WINTER BID AWARDED

Food Services of America has been awarded the Cooperative Purchase Program Winter 2008 Bid.



The first delivery will be completed by February 15, 2008, with three other deliveries to follow at four week intervals, for a total of four deliveries between February and May.

For more information contact Kennie Johnson at (406) 444-4412 or visit <http://www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/cooperativeNEW.html>.

2008 MSU FOOD SERVICE COOKING SCHOOL

The tenth offering of the MSU School Food Service Cooking School will be held August 5-7, 2008 on the Bozeman campus.

This three day hands-on cooking school for managers, cooks or cook's assistants is designed to provide a professional development opportunity to help school food service personnel prepare delicious and healthy school meals in a cost effective manner.

The cost (which includes room and board) is \$350 per person; attendance is limited to 20 participants. There is a reduced cost for participant's not needing room and board. A limited number of scholarships are available.

For more information contact Katie Bark by telephone at (406) 994-5641 or by e-mail at kbark@mt.gov.

